



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Legislative Guide Sheet 2025-26

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Legislative - Michigan

National Theme: From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free
Department Theme: We Don't Know Them All, But We Owe Them All

Program Goals

Be An Advocate - Be Informed - Be Engaged

Welcome to this year's Legislative Program. As an organization our biggest goals are to help Veterans and their families. To support our Veteran. What greater way than protecting their Priority Goals? Then thanking them for their service and letting them know we are still fighting for them and their families.

Let's memorize these Priority Goals set by the National Veterans of Foreign Wars. It is up to each of us to educate not just our membership, but our community as well. We must let the legislators we come in to contact know, as an organization, for who and what priority goals the VFW is advocating for on Capitol Hill. Contacting our legislators is how we influence change. Let us write letters, emails, make phone calls, and go to places Legislators will be appearing and talk to them one-on-one.

Priority Goals to focus on:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| -Budget | -Education Employment and Transition Assistance |
| -Health Care | -Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs |
| -Military Readiness | -National Security Foreign Affairs, and POW/MIA |

You can check the VFW website (www.vfw.org) or MALTA (www.vfwauxiliary.org) Member Resources for the current brochure. Keep copies of the brochure at your Post and display them on your membership tables. The goals are reviewed and released in January of each year by the VFW on the VFW National Website.

Sign up for **VFW ACTION CORPS WEEKLY**. This will come to your personal email account with information regarding what is happening on Capitol Hill. Topics range from service member issues, national security, to updates on Missing in Action (MIA) personnel. Sign up at www.vfw.org and click on the advocacy tab and complete the simple registration. This newsletter is available to the general community. Encourage community members to register to keep up with activities in Washington DC. If you need additional assistance on signing up, you can find a Reel located on the Legislative-Michigan Facebook page that will walk you through the steps.

The VFW AUXILIARY has a lot of resources that you can print and use in being a proactive advocate for veterans. Go to www.vfwauxiliary.org look in Malta - Member Resources - Legislative. You are encouraged to utilize the information in your effort to educate the community. Make Reels of the events you attend-maybe even short interviews with your Legislators. Send thank you notes to the representatives/senators for taking time to meet with you. If you are with a VFW member, remember they take the lead in conversations with legislators.

Our National Ambassador, Amy Jo Lett, puts it best when she said, **“These discussions are not only about advocacy but also about ensuring our legislators understand that behind every policy is a story of service and sacrifice.”** These U.S citizens have sacrificed; they came and served and answered the call to duty for our country and its people.

Our National Ambassador’s biggest point for this year is gratitude. As Amy Jo puts it, “Thank-You Notes with a Purpose”.

- As we meet our legislators in person, send thank-you notes, or thank-you emails as a follow-up.
- Hold legislative "Gratitude Days" where your Auxiliary sends legislators messages of thanks and urging them to support veteran’s issues and benefits. They can be held on days that mean a lot to us (i.e Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Vietnam War Day, Armed Forces Day, or the birthdays of the U.S Military Branches.)
- Have veteran “Gratitude Days” where you write thank-you notes to veterans in your post or communities or all over. Add the QR code for them to sign up for Action Corps. Weekly and/or the QR code for the VFW priority goals so they can be aware that the VFW is actively fighting for them on Capitol Hill and what their goals are.

When making social media posts (updates, reels, campaigns, photos, etc.) use the **#AuxLegislative**.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event to create thank-you notes and cards to veterans that include links to VFW Action Corps Weekly and/or the VFW Priority Goals.
 - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with the most outstanding activity and or event to create thank-you notes and cards to veterans that include links to VFW Action Corps. Weekly and/or the VFW Priority Goals.

Entry form required and available on MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Legislative Chairman by April 30, 2026, for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- Most outstanding activity and/or event to create thank-you notes and cards to veterans that include links to VFW Action Corps Weekly and /or the VFW Priority Goals. Must send required National entry form to the Department Chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best Overall effort in contacting your legislators regarding veteran issues. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best Overall Legislative program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best promotion of promoting the VFW Priority Goals and the VFW ACTION CORPS WEEKLY in each membership category. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.



MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 -51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Auxiliary members contact their legislators on veteran's issues by any method. Report the number of emails, letters, phone calls and/or postcards.		
Auxiliary members attend events where opportunities to interact with their legislators: For example, town halls, meet and greet, coffee time, legislative conferences. Give details of the event.		
Promote, participate in and/or host or co-host the activities regarding the VFW Priority Goals with or without the VFW Post. Give details.		
Promote engagement/use of VFW Action Corps Weekly		
Host an event and/or activity to create "Thank-You" notes and cards to veterans that include links to VFW Action Corps Weekly and/or VFW Priority Goals.		
Used #AuxLegislative when posting photos, reels, social media campaigns while promoting the legislative program. For example: Action Corps Weekly information and/or VFW Priority Goals, gratitude days, etc.		
Sent a thank you note to your legislators after in-person contact.		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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